(a) whether it is a fact that the production of Gentamycin has been reserved for Public Sector Companies; if so, the names of the Companies producing the drug and the quantity thereof;

(b) the names of the private companies with capacity, which are producing Gentamycin and whether any company has developed indigenous technology for the production of this drug; and

(c) what steps are being taken to meet the requirements of this drug by indigenous production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b) Yes. Sir. M/s. Hindustan Antibiotics Ltd. have been producing Gentamycin in the Public Sector. This company has, however, stopped production of Gentamycin recently due to higher cost of production and availability of cheaper imported bulk drug. The details of production during the last three years are given below:—

Year		Production
1990—91	—	1635.4 Kg.
1991—92	—	841.5 Kg.
1992—93	—	87.9 Kg.

M/s. Andhra Synthetics and Antibiotics Ltd. has reportedly developed indigenous technology.

(c) This aspect is under examination.

Problem of DAP manufacturing units

482. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:
SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:
SHRI RAMENDRA KUMAR YADAV 'RAVI':

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 10 out of 11 di-Ammonium Phosphate (DAP) manufacturing units in the country have closed down since April this year;

(b) whether the increased cost of the imported raw materials and low price of DAP imports vis-a-vis the domestic products have been the reasons for closure of these units;

(c) whether it is a fact that the industry representatives have met the government and suggested some measures for the survival of these units; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Six out of the ten DAP units in the country had suspended production from March, 1993 onwards. However, four such units. have since resumed production.

(b) The main reasons for suspension of production by some of the DAP units were increased rupee cost of imported raw materials following unification of exchange rate; which increased their cost of production, and low price of imported DAP.

(c) The fertilizer industry had inter alia suggested that at least 20% customs duty may be imposed on imported DAP or, alternatively, an incentive of at least Rs. 1000 per tonne of DAP may be given to the manufacturers.

(d) Government of India has recently announced a concession of Rs. 1000 per tonne on the sale of indigenous DAP to the farmers during the current Kharif season. No such concession has been given on the imported DAP. This has enabled the DAP units to resume production.

Increase in International Fares

483. DR. SANJAYA SINH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to increase international fares by 15 per cent from mid June this year with respect to all passengers flying by Air India or any foreign airlines;

(b) if so, what are the details of the revised tariff structure; and

(c) what are the reasons for the enhancement?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) Government have approved an increase of 15% in international fares ex-India effective from 16-6-1993. This increase is uniformly applicable on all International fare types to all destinations outside India in respect of all airlines.

(c) The increase is mainly to reduce the disparity between inbound and outbound fares.